

Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 NIC-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01 DRC-01 /132 W

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R 220540Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2013

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 6645

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JA, VN

SUBJECT: JAPAN-DRV RELATIONS

REF: A) TOKYO 4103 B) TOKYO 6199 (NOTAL)

1. FONOFF FIRST SE ASIA DIV HEAD HANABUSA TOLD EMBASSY STRATEGY OUTLINED IN REF A MAY BE LEADING DRV TO AGREE TO ESTABLISHMENT OF EMBASSIES IN HANOI AND TOKYO. IN LATEST TALKS, DRV STILL HAS REFERRED TO GESTURE HANOI WISHES GOJ TO MAKE TOWARD PRG BUT TONE OF DEMAND HAS CHANGED MARKEDLY, ACCORDING TO HANABUSA, AND HE BELIEVES THAT NOT REQUIRING PRG PING PONG REPS TO USE DRV PASSPORTS FOR ENTRY TO PARTICIPATE IN 2ND ASIAN GAMES
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MAY HAVE MADE FAVORABLE IMPRESSION ON HANOI.

HANOI ALSO SEEMS TO HAVE DROPPED EARLIER DEMAND THAT JAPAN NOT ALLOW US BASES IN JAPAN TO BE USED TO SUPPORT US ACTIONS IN INDOCHINA. FINALLY, HANABUSA SAID HANOI SEEMS TO BE SERIOUSLY CONTEMPLATING GOJ ASSISTANCE OFFER OF FIVE BILLION YEN ALTHOUGH HANOI REPS STILL REFER TO FIGURE THREE TIMES THAT OF \$29 M REPARATIONS GIVEN GVN (OR TOTAL \$117 M). HANABUSA NOTED THAT HANOI HAS NOT SPECIFIED WITHIN WHAT TIME FRAME AID SHOULD BE MADE, (WE SURMISE HE MAY BE HINTING THAT GOJ NEGOTIATING PLOY MAY INVOLVE MAKING AN OPEN-ENDED ASSISTANCE OFFER WITHOUT SPECIFYING AMOUNTS OR TIME FRAME BEYOND FIVE BILLION YEN AVAILABLE AT PRESENT.) HANABUSA EXPRESSED BELIEF THAT HANOI MAY HAVE DECIDED THAT ITS URGENTLY NEEDED RECONSTRUCTION EFFORTS NECESSITATE COMPROMISING EARLIER DEMANDS. HE NOTED THAT DRV RECONSTRUCTION EFFORTS HAVE HARDLY BEGUN AND THAT JAPANESE AND OTHER VISITORS TO NVN AND PRG AREAS HAVE COMMENTED ON POOR ECONOMIC CONDITIONS AND SOCIAL UNREST IN DRV. THESE CONDITIONS COULD BE TRANSLATED INTO POLITICAL DISAFFECTION IF SOME PROGRESS IS NOT SOON VISIBLE AFTER DRV'S MUCH-VAUNTED "VICTORY" IN SVN. HE ALSO CITED TENSION BETWEEN HANOI AND PRG AS PROBLEM WHICH FUNDS MIGHT HELP HANOI TO AMELIORATE.

2. GOJ CONSIDERS VISITING DRV PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION AS QUASI-OFFICIAL (REF B) AND HANABUSA MET VISITORS AT AIRPORT ON ARRIVAL MAY 20. VISITORS ASKED THAT BEST WISHES BE PASSED ON TO FONMIN OHIRA. HANABUSA SAID FONOFF WOULD ARRANGE COURTESY CALL IN FONOFF IF REQUESTED AT LEAST PARTIALLY TO BROADEN EXPOSURE AND TIES OF NORTH VIETNAMESE TO MODERATE POLITICAL ELEMENTS IN JAPAN AND GOJ AND NOT CONFINE DRV CONTACTS TO JSP AND JCP. (HANABUSA DID NOT SPECIFY BUT IMPLIED CALL MIGHT BE AT FAIRLY HIGH LEVEL.) HE SPECULATED THAT VISITORS MIGHT HAVE BROUGHT MESSAGE FROM HANOI REGARDING JAPAN-DRV NEGOTIATIONS AND IF THEY MAKE CALL IN FONOFF HE INTENDS TO CHIDE THEM AND HANOI FOR DELAY IN SETTING UP EMBASSIES. SHOESMITH

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